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Date 19.05.2004  
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Sheet 1  
FeuilleAnmelde-Nr.:  
Application No.: 01 300 217.5  
Demande n°:

The examination is being carried out on the **following application documents**:

Text for the Contracting States:  
DE FR GB

**Description, pages:**

1-14 as originally filed

**Claims, No.:**

1-6 as originally filed

**Drawings, sheets:**

1/7-7/7 as originally filed

1. The following document (D) is referred to in this communication; the numbering will be adhered to in the rest of the procedure:

D1: WO 98 09422 A

2. D1 discloses (see in particular page 19 line 17 - page 22 line 28, page 26 lines 7-28, figures 11-14) according to all the features of claim 1, a method for managing signal processing resources of a multimedia platform (page 21 lines 23-25) designed for applying signal processing operations to multimedia signals (page 21 lines 25-26), wherein it comprises the following steps of defining multimedia functions each capable of monitoring the operation of a set of multimedia platform signal processing resources (page 20 lines 25-26), putting them in contact (page 20 lines 26-28), and adapting the contents of the signal processing resource set depending on the multimedia signal to be processed (page 20 lines 26-28), and using the multimedia functions to apply the signal processing operations to said multimedia signals (page 20 lines 28-30).



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Therefore claim 1 is not allowable in that its subject-matter lack of novelty, Article 52(1) and 54 EPC.

3. Dependent claims of claim 1

- 3.a The additional feature of dependent claim 2 („assembling basic functions ..) is disclosed in D1 (page 22 lines 23-28).
- 3.b. The additional features of dependents claim 3-5 are merely straightforward possibilities from which the skilled person would select, in accordance with circumstances, without the exercise of inventive step.
4. Independent Claim 6 corresponds for the category "apparatus" to the method claimed in claim 1 therefore the same objections as for claim 1 arise (see paragraph 2. and 3 above).

Independent claim 6 is not allowable in that its subject-matter lack of novelty, Article 52(1) and 54 EPC.

5. Other matters

- 5.a. Any new independent claim should be in two-part form recommended by Rule 29(1) EPC having a pre-characterising portion which correctly reflects the prior art document D1.
- 5.b. The opening part of the description should be modified to bring it into agreement with any amended independent claim, Rule 27 (1) (c) EPC.
- 5.c. All claims should include reference signs relating to the technical features referred to therein, Rule 29 (7) EPC.
- 5.d. In order to meet the requirement of Rule 27 (1) (b) EPC, the cited document D1 should be acknowledged and briefly discussed in the opening part of the description.



Bescheid/Protokoll (Anlage)

Communication/Minutes (Annex)

Notification/Procès-verbal (Annexe)

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- 5.e. In his letter of reply the Applicant should clearly indicate the parts of the originally filed application serving as basis for any newly claimed subject-matter. This would greatly facilitate the subsequent substantive examination of the claims with respect to Article 123 (2) EPC.